

Terry High School Band

Instrumental Music Code and Band Handbook

Purpose

The Instrumental Music Code and Band Handbook has been written to help students gain the most from their band experience as well as provide guidance to the practical everyday experiences of the band program.

Our Mission

To create an organization that strives to perform at a quality level, while maintaining unity and fun through common goals.

General Goals and Objectives

I. Mental and physical discipline

- A. Develop powers of concentration
- B. Memorize music
- C. Learn techniques of preparation as they relate to group and individual performances
- D. Develop self and group discipline

II. Citizenship through group endeavor

- A. Develop leadership abilities
- B. Develop responsibility
- C. Develop ability to cooperate with others and to work as a team
- D. Develop diligence

III. Physical conditioning

- A. Develop strength, stamina, and endurance
- B. Develop coordination

IV. Cultural growth

Provide opportunities to attain knowledge of music history through performance of various types of instrumental literature.

V. Value judgments

Provide opportunities to make musical value judgments (as they pertain to a musical setting) through critical listening. The student will recognize quality of sound, pitch, style, tempo, rhythm, blend, balance, phrasing, dynamics, and articulation.

VI. Music theory

- A. Know and use note values and rest
- B. Know and use keys, key signatures, and scales
- C. Know and use musical terms, signs, and symbols
- D. Recognize and tune intervals and harmony
- E. Ear training (listening skills)

VII. Proper instrumental technique

- A. Care of the instrument
- B. Assume correct posture and playing position
- C. Develop the embouchure/stick grip/ hand position
- D. Develop characteristic instrumental tone
- E. Develop proper breathing techniques
- F. Develop technical instrumental proficiency (fingering, articulation, rudiments, scales, etc.)

VIII. Creative self-expression

- A. Express oneself in every performance experience
- B. Explore careers

In addition to the State of Texas guidelines, the Terry High School Band will strive to:

- 1. Provide any interested student with opportunities for musical knowledge, musical fellowship, and fun through participation in band.
- 2. Provide for the mental, physical, social, and emotional development of students.
- 3. Instill pride and discipline in each student.
- 4. Provide each student with solo and group endeavors to achieve personal goals and satisfaction.
- 5. Provide basic psychological needs such as recognition, belonging, self-respect, and a feeling of achievement.

General Conduct/Expectations

Band members will observe all policies set forth by the Lamar Consolidated Independent School District, in addition to the following, as they pertain to the instrumental music setting:

- 1. All students are expected to conduct themselves properly at all times. Display of profanity, temper, flagrant violation of rules, etc., will not be tolerated. Individual behavior during a band function is a reflection of the group.
- 2. Students will follow director's instructions.
- 3. Students will be in their assigned rehearsal area ready to work at the set rehearsal time.
- 4. Students will bring all equipment including music, pencil, instrument, and all supplies to rehearsals daily.
- 5. Students will keep hands, feet, and other objects to themselves.
- 6. Students will maintain a high level of good and acceptable behavior.
- 7. Students will not bring food, drinks, candy, or gum in the band hall area without permission from a band director.

8. Students will not play on equipment they do not own unless they have permission from a director to use. Students will not touch, handle, borrow, or use anyone else's instrument, uniform, or personal belongings.
9. Students should ask for permission to speak by raising their hand and wait to be acknowledged. All rehearsals are expected to be extremely quiet so that our time will be utilized wisely.
10. When allowed in the band hall, either before or after school, students will not disturb any rehearsal in progress.
11. Students will be allowed to use the telephone before or after school with permission as long as such call relates to band business.
12. Students will respect the property of others, and return their equipment to its proper storage locker or place when not in use. Students are responsible for keeping their storage area and locker clean. Students who demonstrate great difficulty with this may lose the privilege of having a storage area in the band hall.
13. Students will not enter the director's office without permission.
14. Students will not deface or mark on music stands, walls etc.
15. Students will utilize their assigned storage slot/locker for instrument cases during rehearsals. Cases should not be brought into rehearsals unless requested by a director. All lockers must be locked to keep property safe at all times.
16. Any behavior, which is not representative of good citizenship, as perceived by the band staff, may result in the student's dismissal from the activity at hand as well as the band program. This also applies to the actions of student leaders in both public and private events.

General Daily Supplies

- A. All issued music
- B. Pencil
- C. Instrument
- D. All supplies relative to their instrument
- E. All marching related equipment (during marching season)
 1. Lyre/folder
 2. All issued music
 3. Other marching equipment as needed
- F. Metronome (for home use)

Flutes

- * Tuning and cleaning rods
- * Cleaning cloth
- * Key Oil
- * Approved type instrument
- * Screwdriver set

Clarinets

- * Three good playable reeds
- * Reed guard
- * Ligature
- * Proper mouthpiece with cap
- * Key oil (Case Storage)
- * Bore oil (Home Storage)
- * Cleaning swab

- * Approved type instrument
- * Cork grease

Saxes/Low Reeds as applicable

- * Three good playable reeds
- * Reed guard
- * Ligature
- * Proper mouthpiece (Selmer C star)
- * Approved type instrument

Trumpet

- * Valve oil (Al Cass)
- * Polishing cloth
- * Mouthpiece (Bach 5c/3c) or other director approved mouthpiece
- * Approved type instrument

French Horn

- * Rotary/Valve oil (Holton Rotary-Concert Horn)
- * Polishing cloth
- * Approved mouthpiece
- * Approved type instrument

Trombone

- * Slide cream
- * Spray water bottle
- * Polishing cloth
- * Mouthpiece (Bach 5g) or other director approved mouthpiece
- * Approved type instrument

Baritone/Euphonium

- * Value oil (Al Cass)
- * Mouthpiece (5g) or other director approved mouthpiece
- * Polishing cloth
- * Approved type instrument

Tuba

- * Rotary/valve oil
- * Mouthpiece
- * Polishing cloth
- * Approved type instrument

Percussion

- * Snare sticks -Vic Firth General
- * Xylophone mallets (Musser M-4, 213)
- * Vibes/Marimba mallet (Blue Medium)

- * Timpani mallets (Firth Staccato)
- * Stick bag
- * List of approved equipment provided by the percussion instructor

Color guard

- * Pole
- * Flag
- * Rifle (if applicable)
- * Saber (if applicable)
- * Electrical tape

FACILITIES

We have a great Band Hall at Terry HS. It will stay nice from year to year if we keep it that way. The Band Hall rules are as follows:

1. NO food or drink in the Band Hall at any time. The only exception is water.
2. NO gum in the Band Hall.
3. NO running or horseplay allowed. As soon as this starts, someone or something gets hurt or broken.
4. DO NOT sit on the backs of the chairs.
5. DO NOT lean or bend the music stands, they are made for music not bodies.
6. All instruments and school owned equipment are to be kept in the Band student's locker. This locker comes with a lock supplied by LCISD. If you loose the lock, there is a \$10.00 lock fee. These locks are to be used for Band Lockers only. Any other lock used will be cut off.
7. Practice rooms are just that, for practice only. Not for instrument and backpack storage. Please make sure you keep all practice rooms neat and orderly.
8. All Band Uniforms are to be kept in the Uniform Storage room.
9. The Band Hall copy machine is for MUSIC copies only. ONLY a music librarian or a director may use this machine.
10. The Band Hall phone is for Band business only. NO personal calls. Band students can use the phone after Band functions to call their parents.

School Owned/Issued Instruments

The Lamar Consolidated Independent School District will provide a limited number of instruments for student use. These instruments include such highly expensive instruments as the Bassoon, Oboe, Tenor Saxophone, Baritone Saxophone, Bass Clarinet, French Horn, Euphonium, Tuba, and general Percussion equipment. This equipment is generally purchased by the school district for student use because of its extremely high value. **Thus, all school owned equipment must be handled with optimum care.** Students failing to care for or take care of their school issued instrument will lose the privilege to use such instrument.

Procedures for school owned instruments:

1. If at all possible, students will be issued one instrument for home use and one for school use. Order of distribution will be done based on chair order.
2. Lamar Consolidated Independent School District does not provide insurance for individually or school owned equipment. It is required of all students utilizing school owned instruments to provide insurance coverage for the said instrument. **Students will be held responsible for school owned instruments issued to them. This**

responsibility will include fire, theft, accidental damage, abuse and general maintenance needed not caused by normal use.

3. Students and parents must sign an instrument checkout form before the student can use the instrument.
4. Each instrument will be issued in good playing condition. Each issued instrument will be checked and cleaned by a music company prior to issue. Students are expected to maintain their issued instruments accordingly.
5. The band member is financially responsible for all equipment and/or materials checked out to him or her.
6. All equipment and materials must be kept in their proper storage location when not in use.

Special Note

School owned instruments are not to be treated as “free” instruments. Basic supplies must still be purchased and repairs must still be made just like personally owned instruments. Please strive to treat these instruments as if they were your own. Most school owned instruments exceed a \$2000 value.

Travel Guidelines

The band will frequently travel on both school and commercial buses. In addition to following all Lamar CISD bus rules student conduct is expected to be at the highest level on any trip.

1. Students must travel to events and return from events on the bus. Any student wishing to arrive or leave with his/her parent must notify a director in writing prior to the event. A decision will be rendered based on the circumstances provided.
2. Students must have all necessary forms completed and returned to travel on any trip with the band.
3. While on the bus, students will:
 - A. Remain seated at all times
 - B. Sit properly in a forward position
 - C. Keep the bus clear of food, drinks, and debris
 - D. Keep all body parts inside the bus
 - E. Use only approved type/headset radios
 - F. Remain silent when an adult is addressing the bus
 - G. Refrain from loud, boisterous talking, screaming, whistling, etc.
 - H. Refrain from intense public displays of affection.

Special note:

Students are reminded that all performances/concerts start and conclude at the band hall. As a member of the band, you are a representative of your school. Always be on your best behavior. If you are in doubt about an action, **DO NOT DO IT!** Your conduct must be such; that at no time could it be considered a bad reflection on the school, the band, your home, yourself or the community.

Chaperones

Adult chaperones are a great asset for the band program. Proper respect will be shown to all adults associated with the band program at all times.

Marching Band

The Terry High School Marching Band is the most visible organization of the instrumental music program. All band students in grades 9-12 are expected to participate in the Marching Band. Students who participate in certain school sponsored varsity level events such as cheerleading, drill team, or football may be excused from participation at the discretion of the band director. On after school practice schedule will be worked out with the coach and the band director for attendance in both activities. Please note different solutions will be presented for varying situations. Students may also be excused from participation in the marching band for other reasons such as medical complications or physical disabilities. Such exemptions will be at the discretion of the director.

Marching Rehearsal Schedule

Monday Full Band 4:00 - 6:00 P.M.

Tuesday Full Band 4:00 - 6:00 P.M.

Wednesday Full Band 4:00 - 6:00 P.M.

Thursday Full Band 4:00 - 6:00 P.M.

Friday and Saturday decisions are based on contest schedules and football games, and at the discretion of the band director.

CHECK YOUR CALENDAR!

Marching Band Student Leadership Positions

Color Guard/Percussion-Captains

Color guard and percussion captains will be selected through an interview and audition process. These positions will be utilized for specific needs as they pertain to the special needs of the color guard and percussion sections.

Drill Leaders

The band directors will select drill leaders. Drill leaders will be used in the instruction of marching skills as well as the general marching drill. An audition process will select drill leaders through chart reading and quality marching skills. Drill leaders will serve the marching season for which they are selected.

Drum Majors

The drum major audition process will select Drum major(s). Drum major(s) will be used in the instruction of marching skills as well as the general marching drill. The Head Drum Major will be the field commander and conductor for the marching ensemble. An audition process that will involve chart reading, quality marching skills, use of vocal commands, and conducting skills will select Drum major(s). Drum major(s) will serve the marching season for which they are selected. In the event an underclassman is selected as drum major, he/she must reenter the selection process the next school year.

Special Note: Please see conduct expectation in all sections pertaining to general conduct of students as well as band council positions.

General Attendance

In order to have and maintain a high quality marching band attendance from all members is essential. The following guidelines outline the attendance procedures and policies for the marching band.

Roll Check

Roll check will take place promptly at the start of rehearsal and in the attendance block.

Tardiness

Students not in the attendance block at the appropriate time will be marked tardy.

Excused Tardiness

Tardiness will be excused at the discretion of the directors. Tutorials, appointments, etc., will not be an excuse for tardiness unless prior arrangements are made and approved.

Unexcused Tardiness

Students who have more than one unexcused tardy shall be subject to one of the following consequences:

1. Loss of 3rd quarter privilege (for one game) at a football game
2. Requirement to stay after rehearsal or report early to next rehearsal to make-up lost time.
3. Students who are tardy will be required to make up 15 minutes of fundamental marching with his/her section leader.

*Consequences will be issued at the discretion of the band directors.

Absence

A tardy will be converted to a mark of “absence” 15 minutes after the rehearsal begins.

Excused Absence

Absences will be excused at the discretion of the directors. Appointments, tutorials, etc. will not be an excuse for absence. Personal illness requiring medical attention, death in the family, and serious problems will be considered as an excused absence. Students, who are continually ill, may need to provide a doctor’s note releasing them for participation in order to insure the well being of the child and to reduce band director concerns. If in doubt, an absence should be checked with a director.

Unexcused Absence

Students who have an unexcused absence will be subject to one of the following consequences:

1. Loss of 3rd quarter privilege for one game
2. Removal from the marching band and loss of physical education credit

Marching Band Performances

The primary performances of the marching band will be at the football games. The marching band will also perform at various competitive marching festivals, the UIL Marching Contest, as well as the local parade. This is to include Pep Rallies and halftime run through.

General Performance Procedures

1. **Report time:** This will be the designated time at which all members should be at the high school or set location. Students should have all attire and necessary items for the designated performance prior to the report time.
2. **Load time:** This will be the designated time at which all members should be on the appropriate bus with all equipment loaded.
3. **Return time:** This will be the time of return to the band hall.

Music Inspection

Music inspection will occur before all football games and marching band performances that will utilize music, which is not part of the field/competition show. Students will be asked to display music, lyre (if appropriate), and flip folder. Students who do not pass music inspection will be graded accordingly.

Uniform Inspection

Prior to student departure for a marching band performance, students must pass a uniform inspection. In order to board the bus students must have complete uniform, raincoat, music, flip folder, and other components for the marching performance.

Instrument Loading/Unloading

Students who play large instruments such as Percussion, Tuba, Euphonium, Trombone, French Horn, Trumpet, Sax, Low Reeds, etc. shall be allowed to transport their instrument on the band trailer/instrument truck. All others will transport their instruments in the bus. Students will be responsible for seeing that their instrument is in the proper location. Students will also be responsible to see that their instrument is picked up and stored correctly upon the unloading of the instrument truck. Students who display difficulty in following the loading and unloading procedures may lose the privilege of utilizing the instrument truck.

Loading Procedures

The loading crew captain will designate the appropriate area for all instruments. Students should insure that their instrument is in the proper place. Cases should be closed and secure. Instruments in the wrong area may be overlooked and not loaded.

Unloading Procedures

The loading crew captain will designate the unloading area. Students should uncase their instrument and leave cases in the appropriate area. Unloading should be done in a timely, efficient manner.

Football Game Procedures

The football game is viewed as a performance of the band program. Such performance includes all aspects of the game from arrival to departure.

1. Students will arrive at the set report time. Students will load and be prepared to travel at the set load time.
2. Students will load the buses with all equipment needed for the performance. The drum major(s) and/or band directors will inspect all students boarding buses prior to departure. Students not meeting uniform, music, and loading guidelines will be sent home and not allowed to participate. Students will receive an unexcused absence for such occurrences.
3. Upon arrival at the performance area, students will don all uniform components and prepare equipment for unloading. Students will unload buses when instructed to do so by a chaperone or director.
4. Students will report to the entrance formation for final inspection. Students will march in to drum cadence upon instruction from a drum major or director.
5. Students will report to seating area. Students will remain standing until all band members have arrived and then prepared to be seated. Students will sit when instructed by a drum major or director. (Students will sit in assigned section. Students will remain in that section at all times.)
6. Students will remain in the band seating section at all times during the game. Water will be provided by the band parent organization. Students will refrain from accepting food or drinks from parents, relatives, or friends.
7. Students needing a restroom break must be accompanied by a chaperone. Restroom breaks will not be granted in the second quarter of a football game.
8. Students will be given water after the halftime performance. No other food or drinks are acceptable during the game in uniform.
9. Students will be expected to listen for and watch the directors and drum major(s) during the game. Students will need to be prepared to perform at all times.
10. Students will refrain from playing their instruments on an individual basis. The band will perform as a group or with approved small ensembles.
11. At the appropriate time the band will be dismissed from the stands for the halftime performance. At this time the band must move quickly, quietly, and efficiently to the appropriate area. Students will need to be focused on the directors and drum major(s) instructions.
12. At the conclusion of the halftime performance students will return to the stands and remain in their assigned seating area throughout the remainder of the game.
13. At the conclusion of the game students will load buses quickly and efficiently.
14. Upon return to the band hall students will insure that all personal items, uniforms, and instruments are placed in the proper storage areas.

Band Uniform Guidelines

Students are expected to follow the listed uniform guidelines. No variations will be allowed.

GENERAL

1. Band uniforms will be issued during registration for summer band camp. Band uniforms will be stored at school in the uniform storage area.
2. Students will be held financially responsible for the uniform and its components.

ISSUE AND RETURN

1. Students will pick up uniforms from the storage room at least 30 minutes prior to report time for any event.
2. Students should follow the posted pick up/return guidelines. Students who do not follow these guidelines will be sent to the end of the pick up/return line.

DONNING THE UNIFORM

1. Always wear and treat your uniform with pride. The uniform should be worn as a complete unit at all times when in public. The only exception to this will be when a director instructs you to remove your hat or coat. The band t-shirt is to be worn under your uniform. The band shirt will be part of pre-performance inspections.
2. You must wear approved black band shoes, black socks, and white gloves.
3. Jewelry, including watches, hair ribbons, and nail polish, etc., are not allowed while in uniform. These items hinder the uniform appearance of the band.
4. Band students with long hair will need to put it up under their hat during performances.
5. Natural hair colors will be the only style of color accepted.
6. No consumption of food and drinks while in uniform without permission.

COLOR GUARD

1. Make-up will be worn as instructed by the director
2. Hair will be styled as instructed by the director
3. Black shimmer tights are to be worn underneath the uniform as instructed by the director
4. Only accessories that are a part of the uniform may be worn

COLOR GUARD UNIFORM

1. Never cut any material from the guard uniform. The pant leg should come to the top of the jazz shoe.
2. Wash the uniform separately in “cold” water on the “delicate” cycle. Use a mild detergent such as Woolite.
3. The uniform may either be drip-dried or placed in the dryer. If a dryer is used, place a bath towel inside with the uniform and dry until damp. Remove from dryer and drip-dry the remainder of the time.

UNIFORM COSTS

If a uniform part is damaged beyond repair or lost, the student will be responsible for the replacement costs.

Concert Bands and Jazz Ensembles

Students in the band program will be placed in a concert ensemble by audition. The concert ensembles will be:

- Symphonic Band
- Concert Band
- Cadet Band
- Jazz Band

To be selected into and maintain status in the Symphonic, Concert, Cadet and Jazz Band students must:

1. Participate in the audition process
2. Have successful participation in the marching band
3. Maintain consistence academic eligibility
4. Maintain acceptable level of classroom behavior

Winter Guard

Students in the color guard can also take part in the winter guard program during the second semester. Winter guard competitions and rehearsal dates to be announced. When traveling, students will appropriate band outfit as instructed by the director. There will be a fee accessed for uniform and props for all participants.

Winter Percussion

Students in the fall percussion will also take part in the winter percussion program during the second semester. Winter percussion competitions and rehearsal dates to be announced in late fall. The members will be accessed a fee for uniform and props for all participants.

Performance/Rehearsal Requirements for the Concert and Jazz Ensembles

Each of the concert ensembles will perform at various times throughout the school year. Students are expected to participate in the performances of their assigned ensemble. Failure to participate in either rehearsals or performances will result in student removal from the organization at the discretion of the band directors. (See general attendance policies)

Performances of the concert and jazz ensembles will include but not limited to the following:

- * Winter Concert
- * Spring Concert
- * Band Festivals/Pre UIL Contest
- * UIL Contest
- Jazz Festivals

Concerts and Jazz/Performances

Concerts and performances are frequent with all bands. Students should consult their calendar for dates and times. Periodically, the calendar will change and updates will be sent home.

Concerts are considered to have three parts: warm-up, performance, and listening. The concert begins for the student at the warm-up. Punctuality is essential. A concert concludes when the last group performs and directors have given permission for students to be dismissed. A general report time will be given for all students.

1. All concerts are a group effort, thus, attendance is required
2. All concerts are an extension of the classroom and will be graded accordingly
3. Students should be punctual and prepared for each performance/concert
4. In the event a performance causes a student to miss another class, the student is responsible to make up all missed work
5. The appropriate dress for all UIL concerts will be a dress uniform. (See Uniforms)
6. For all program concerts students will dress as instructed by the directors.
7. Students are expected to stay the entire concert.

General Attendance

In order to have and maintain high quality concert ensembles, attendance from all members is essential. **The following guidelines outline the attendance procedures and policies for concert ensembles as it relates to after school rehearsals and section rehearsals.**

Roll Check

Roll check will take place promptly at the start of rehearsal.

Tardiness

Students not seated at the appropriate time will receive a mark of tardy.

Excused Tardiness

Tardiness will be excused at the discretion of the directors. Tutorials, appointments, etc., will not be an excuse for tardiness unless prior arrangements are made and approved.

Unexcused Tardiness

Students who have more than one unexcused tardy shall make up missed time at a time to be arranged by the director.

Absence

Students not seated at the appropriate time or those not tardy will be marked absent.

Excused Absence

Absences will be excused at the discretion of the directors. Appointments, tutorials, etc., will not be an excuse for absence. Personal illness, death in the family, and serious problems will be considered as excused absences. Students who are continually ill, may need to provide a doctor's note to insure the well being of the child and to reduce band director concerns. If in doubt, this should be checked with a doctor. **Special note: During the concert season, students will generally be responsible for only TWO weekly section rehearsal and group rehearsals as needed. Thus, students will have ample days available for tutorials and appointments.**

Unexcused Absence

Students who have an unexcused absence will be expected to make up missed time at the discretion of the director. Also, a student may lose his/her position in the band for such absences.

Section Rehearsals

All students in the Symphonic and Concert bands will have a weekly section rehearsal. **Section rehearsals for concert ensemble will begin at the conclusion of the marching band season.** Students are expected to be punctual and prepared on a week-by-week basis. Absence from section rehearsals must be in accordance with the attendance policy. Students must make every effort to attend. Section rehearsals are an extension of the classroom and are graded accordingly.

Region Band/Guidelines

1. All Symphonic and Concert band students should plan to audition for All-Region Band. If selected, you will perform a concert. (Check your calendar for dates.)
2. All other band students are encouraged to audition.
3. Students will be graded on preparation for this event.
4. Any person who is fortunate to be selected will attend all rehearsals and the performance. **It is quite an honor to be selected to the All Region Band. Hundreds of students throughout the region will audition. Even if you are not selected, the experience you receive by preparing will enhance your musical ability and education.**

Solo and Ensemble (See Appendix I and II for rehearsal suggestions)

1. All band members in the band program will prepare and perform a solo or ensemble.
2. All Symphonic and Concert band members will participate in an ensemble unless other permission is granted.
3. Grades will be issued for preparation and participation in the Solo and Ensemble process.
4. Students must use an approved accompanist. The accompanist fee is \$25.00.

Eligibility

1. Many band activities are designated by the state as extra-curricular. The state laws regarding participation therefore govern these activities. The state law is such that a student shall be suspended from participation in all extra-curricular activities sponsored or sanctioned by the school district during the six week period following a grade reporting period in which the student received a grade lower than seventy in any one class. However, the student may not be suspended from participation during the period in which school is recessed for the summer. Also, students are not suspended for practice or rehearsal of extra-curricular activities.
2. Students may regain eligibility under certain circumstances. If a student has been suspended as a result of failing, he/she may regain eligibility by passing ALL courses in the 3rd week of the affected grading period. Thus, he/she may regain eligibility at the conclusion of the 4th week of the suspension period.
3. A few band activities are designated by the state as co-curricular. These activities are those, which occur on campus, and are a natural extension of the learning taken place in the classroom. Examples of this type of activity are the public concerts, which are presented at Terry High School. The state eligibility law does not govern these activities.

General Grading Policy

Students will be graded on the following scale:

Grading Policy:

1. Tests (playing tests, performances) - 50%
2. Quizzes/Projects (sectionals) - 30%
3. Daily (participation, supplies) - 20%

Daily/Participation

Includes: Instrument, Music supplies, Concentration, Class work, Weekly Recordings, Hearings, etc.

Extension of Class

Includes: Co-curricular events such as concerts, contest and section rehearsals (All events are graded). This includes: Playing and Classroom Test

General School Conduct

As a band member, you are expected to display above average conduct at all time! This is not limited to band activities, but encompasses daily classroom and campus behavior. Failure to maintain good conduct will result in disciplinary action at the discretion of the band director.

Private Lessons

The private instructors are professional musicians in the area and have advanced degrees in the performance of their instruments. Lessons are extremely valuable to the individual student and are highly encouraged.

1. **All** students are ENCOURAGED to take individualized private instruction.
2. Lessons will be given weekly.
3. Detailed information is available on the private instructor through the band directors.

Financial

Assessed Fees

Shoes:

All marching band students must have the approved black shoes. No other shoe will be acceptable. Approximate cost: \$25.00.

Band Shirt:

Will be worn at all games, pep rallies, and other school events, as instructed by the director. Cost: \$15.00.

Misc. Supplies:

These will be such supplies as lyres, flip, folders, raincoats, water jugs, white T-shirt, black socks, white gloves, etc. The cost will vary from year to year.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POLICY

It is the policy of the Terry High School Band that no student should be denied the privilege of band membership due to financial hardship. Arrangements can be made with the director for these students who are in need of such considerations.

FUNDRAISING

The Terry High School Band engages in several fund raising activities each year. The monies raised from fundraising activities will be credited to an account held by the Booster Club. This money will be used only for the direct benefit of the students. Money in fundraising accounts is subject to state law regarding the collection of sales tax and cannot be transferred to another student. A student shall use the money in his/her account only for travel and trips with the band. This is the only expense to which fundraising profits can be applied. Money from fundraising is by law the property of the school district and cannot be transferred from one student to another. A student who ends the school year with an account balance will carry that balance over to the next year.

Band Council

Band council elections will be held during the last six weeks of the school year. Band council positions are open to all students in the band program.

The band council shall serve as an advisory/action body for numerous band functions. The council shall assist the band directors and band students in planning, preparing, and operating band functions. The band council will meet as needed. The following is a list of offices and responsibilities.

Historian

The historian will be responsible for keeping an accurate record, both written and pictorial, of all band events. The historian should have a good camera and possess excellent writing skills. The historian will present a scrapbook to the band at the end of the school year.

Secretary

The secretary will be responsible for many areas. The secretary will assist the band directors in operating the supply drawer, typing, assisting in the band library, maintaining bulletin boards, and numerous special assignments.

Vice President

The vice president will receive assignments as dictated by the school year. The vice president will assist the president in the execution of his/her duties.

President

The president shall be charged with ensuring proper operations of the band council. The president shall prepare a monthly meeting agenda and preside over all band council meetings. The president shall be responsible for assisting other council members in their areas. The president will have numerous special assignments and should be an extremely dedicated band member.

Appointed Band Council Positions

Librarian

The librarian will be responsible for the operations of the band library. The librarian will have special computer assignments and band related projects. The librarian will have added weekly responsibilities.

Loading Crew Captain

The loading crew captain will be responsible for efficient and effective loading of all band equipment when the band is traveling.

Special Positions

Drum major(s) and Drill Leaders will be considered part of the band council on an advisory basis.

Letter Jacket Award System

A student must earn a grand total of 6 points to be awarded from the Terry Band Jacket. Points may be earned in the following manner:

- 1 Point**
- Each semester completed in band with a passing grade in band
 - Solo and Ensemble (performance of a solo or ensemble)
 - State Solo and Ensemble (performance of a solo or ensemble)
 - Selected to perform in All-Region Band
 - Selected to perform in All-Region Orchestra
 - Selected to perform in All-Region Jazz
 - Selected to perform in Area Band

2 Points

- Selected to perform in All-State Band

Color Guard Letter Jacket Award System:

A color guard member needs to accumulate 6 points to earn a letter jacket. Color Guard can accumulate points toward letter jacket in the following manner:

- 1 point** Marching Guard (Fall semester)
 Winter Guard (Spring semester)

Color guard General Information

Dressing Out

Dressing out is required during rehearsal and is part of the daily grade. Dress out clothes consist of:

- | | |
|---|---------------------------|
| * T-shirt | * Shorts |
| * Socks | * Tennis shoes |
| * Sweat shirt (when cold) | * Sweat pants (when cold) |
| * Additional items (at director's discretion) | |

Tote Bags

The following items are to be kept in the tote bags. Additional items may be included at the discretion of the director.

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| * Hair spray | * Bobby pins |
| * Hair clips | * Deodorant |
| * Make-up (in zip-loc bag) | * Feminine products |
| * Kleenex | * Uniform parts (i.e. gloves) |
| * Electric tape | * Towel (in zip-loc bag) |
| * Wind suit (when applicable) | |

Care of Flags

Flags may be washed either by hand or by machine (check with director first). If flags are washed by machine, wash in a mild detergent such as Woolite on the delicate cycle. Flags may either be drip-dried or placed in a dryer. If a dryer is used, dry flags until DAMP. Drip-dry the flags the remainder of the time. Washdays will be assigned.

Practice

When practicing, concentrate on technique. Pay attention to the details of both body and equipment. Do not "just go through the moves/routines" half-heartedly reiterating mistakes. Define each move as explained in class.

Appendix I

Guide to Region Band and Solo Preparation

When you play a solo or region music, **you must understand that it is classified as serious music literature.** Further, you must perform and practice the music accurately and precisely. By following the steps listed below, you **can** achieve a high level of performance.

- * **Play all the notes in the music correctly.** Make sure that each note has a clear and good sound. Good sound is achieved by maintaining good air support and a firm embouchure. Strive to keep your facial muscles still as you play. Make the best possible sound every time you play your horn!
- * **Play all the rhythms accurately.** Make sure that each rhythm is counted correctly. Make sure that you maintain a steady slow tempo when learning a solo. **USE A METRONOME!**
- * **Play the entire selection at a slow pace.** One half of the correct tempo is a good starting tempo. For instance, if a selection is marked 120 beats per minute, then a good beginning tempo is 60. Once you can accurately play all notes and rhythms at half the tempo, the tempo should be increased by 10 beats per minute, per week. If the tempo is not marked, a director or private teacher will be glad to give you a tempo marking.
- * **Play the music with the correct style.** Make sure you are aware of accented notes, staccato notes, legato notes, slurs, and non-slurred notes. Articulation and achieving the correct style go hand in hand.
- * **Play the music with all dynamic markings in place.** Make sure that you are aware of crescendos, diminuendos, volume marking (f, ff, p, mp, etc.), and any other listed change in volume. It is a good idea to highlight dynamic markings with a color that will catch your attention as you play.
- * **Lastly, it is important that your music be practiced daily with all of the above items in place.** You must play with the best possible sound on your instrument each and every time that you perform or practice!! High-level work is difficult!! A little hard work will go a long way. Remember, hard work guarantees nothing, but without it, you do not stand a chance for top performance!

Appendix II

General Guide to Daily Practice

Practicing!!

By Mike Fischer
Baylor University School of Music

Playing any musical instrument well takes work. You must practice daily and develop a sense of pride in your musical endeavors. Studying with a qualified private teacher will certainly be to your advantage. So, ask your band director about private lessons.

I. Warm-up

Warming up correctly prepares our entire body for a productive practice session. It especially relaxes and stretches our embouchure muscles for the upcoming session.

Exercises

1. Breathing (We play **wind** instruments, so we must practice taking deep and relaxed breaths.)
2. Mouthpiece Buzzing (5-10 minutes of buzzing before you play the instrument.)
3. Long tones
4. (Woodwinds)-Embouchure exercises

II. Daily Routines

Daily routines allow the musician to focus his/her attention on proper breathing, tone production, and articulations needed for playing.

Exercises

1. Listen
2. Lip Slurs
3. Upper/Lower Registers
4. Scales
5. (Woodwinds)-Finger coordination exercises

Special needs of individual

1. i.e., tonguing, multiple tonguing, slurring, range, tone, breathing, etc.
2. **Listen**

III. Fix-it Now!

This portion of your practice time is aimed at fixing specific problems in your band music, solos, private lesson materials, etc.

Achieving Results

1. **Listen**
2. Have a reasonable goal to achieve each day.
3. Work on the sections that you are having problems playing. Practice a difficult measure until you can play it right several times in a row. Then add another measure until you can play both measures right several times in a row. Continue this routine until you have worked out the difficult parts.
4. Slow down.
5. **Listen**
6. Use a metronome.
7. Use a tuner.
8. Be patient.
9. **Listen.**

Technique Development

1. The metronome is a very important tool for playing fast.
2. Begin very slowly and learn the notes. **BUT USE THE METRONOME!**
3. Don't be afraid to **SLOW** the metronome **DOWN**. (You must be able to walk before you run.)
4. Practice the difficult passages away from the instrument by fingering the notes and tonguing the rhythms. **USE THE METRONOME!** Alternate the fingering and tonguing technique with practicing the music on the instrument. **AFTER** you can play the passage two or three times in a row without any mistakes, increase the tempo by three to five beats. Then, work on the passage again until you can play it two or three times in a row without any mistakes. Continue this method every day until you can play the passages at the desired speed.
5. **Have a reasonable goal every day.** Learning and playing two to four measures correctly is a much smarter method of developing fast technique than playing eight to sixteen measures incorrectly.

Ear training

Sit at a piano or electronic keyboard with your instrument and music. Play music on the piano and try it on the instrument. **ALSO, BUZZ THE MUSIC ON THE MOUTHPIECE!**

Range Development (Brass)

A. Playing Higher and Higher

Practice Scales: Start on a lower scale and play it up and down. Then, play the next higher scale. Continue ascending through the scales until you reach your limit. Then, when you think you can't go any higher, try one or two more scales. You may surprise yourself and play a higher scale. Eventually, you **will** increase your high register.

B. Playing Lower and Lower

Do the opposite of Playing Higher and Higher: Start on a higher scale and play it down and up. Then, play the next lower scale. Continue descending through the scales until you reach your limit. Then, when you think you can't go any lower, try one or two more scales.

IV. Perform Your Music

Performing your music from beginning to end without stopping builds the physical endurance required for playing that particular piece. It also enables you to become familiar with the complete work and see how the phrases fit together.

V. Fun-time

Play music you enjoy playing.

We spend a lot of time and effort learning how to play our instruments, and it is enjoyable to play, so take time to have fun.

VI. Stage Fright-Solo Performances

How to overcome stage fright.

1. Breathe slowly and deeply two or three times before you begin.
2. Perform your music for family and friends.
3. Perform your music for the band directors and private teachers.
4. Practice performing in a similar situation
 - A. If you will be performing on stage with hot lights, practice in a hot room or wear a heavy coat while practicing.
 - B. Wear your performance attire during a practice session.
5. Eliminate unnecessary worries.
 - A. Empty all tuning slides before entering stage.
 - B. Oil the valves regularly
 - C. Have **four good** reeds available
 - D. Make sure all pads and keys are in good working order.

TERRY HIGH BAND HANDBOOK SIGNATURE PAGE

Please return this page to your band director.

I have received, reviewed and understand the policies and guidelines in the Terry High School Band Handbook and the Instrumental Music Code. I further agree to abide by the procedures set forth.

Student Name _____
(Please print)

Student Signature _____

Grade _____

Class Period _____

I have received and reviewed the Instrumental Music code and Band Handbook.

Parent Name _____
(Please print)

Parent Signature _____

Date _____